

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 are active in the present application. Claims 3-5 and 7-10 have been amended to remove multiple dependencies. Claim 13 is a new claim. Support for new Claim 13 is found in the Examples of the Specification. No new matter is added. An action on the merits and allowance of the claims is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as shown on the marked-up copies following this amendment to read as follows.

--3. (Amended) Azoxy dyes as claimed in claim 1 [or 2], wherein each R¹ is methoxy.

4. (Amended) Azoxy dyes as claimed in [any of claims 1 to 3] claim 1, wherein the phenyl rings A are unsubstituted or C₁-C₄-alkyl-substituted.

5. (Amended) Azoxy dyes as claimed in [any of claims 1 to 4] claim 1, wherein each R² is carboxyl.

7. (Amended) Copper complex dyes and their mixtures obtainable by reacting the dyes of [any of claims 1 to 6] claim 1 with at least 0.1 mol equivalent of a copper donor.

8. (Amended) A process for preparing copper complex dyes, which comprises reacting an azoxy dye of [any of claims 1 to 5] claim 1 with at least 0.1 mol equivalent of a copper donor.

9. (Amended) A method of using one or more azoxy dyes and/or their copper complexes of [claims 1 to 7] claim 1 for dyeing or printing natural or synthetic substrates.

10. (Amended) Natural or synthetic substrates dyed or printed with one or more azoxy dyes and/or their copper complexes of [any of claims 1 to 7] claim 1.--

Claim 13 - (New).